

Rubric: Focus Paper

TASK: Write a 1000-word paper that describes the focus area you are interested in investigating for your Core Paper. See description above for more details.

Dimension	An exemplary paper has..	Points/Comments
Problem Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ Tells a short story or anecdote that interests the reader in your problem ___ Clear description of the problem that you are concerned about and will address in your core paper. ___ Clear description of the context of the problem (people, location, demographics, all who are affected by the problem). ___ Concise definition of the problem ___ Includes a sentence with this template: <i>The purpose of this paper isso that....</i> (what is a positive goal or outcome you will get from addressing this problem?) 	
Background knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ states how the research literature addresses the problem. ___ compares and contrasts the research literature to understand the different viewpoints about the problem ___ describes what is already known about the problem ___ offers some examples of what the problem looks like ___ describes 1-2 current best explanations of why the problem exists ___ critiques one of these explanations ___ includes at least 10 references that offer viewpoints on the problem 	
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ clearly articulates why you care about this problem ___ makes an argument about why others should care. 	
Conventions & Formatting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ___ puts 5+ key terms at end of this paper (from Pro- sem assignment) ___ lists key sentences from your paragraphs on the front page of the paper (before you start with your 1000-word text.) ___ numbers pages and uses running header ___ puts paper in dropbox for D2L ___ uses APA formatting for in-text citations ___ uses APA formatting for reference list ___ excellent punctuation, grammar, spelling NOTE: The dimensions of this rubric can be used as subheads in the text (with the exception of "Conventions & Formatting"). ___ Cuts and pastes this rubric to the last page of your focus statement that you put in the D2L dropbox. 	